building and a current of electricity be supplied thereto from a local battery, and by means of fusible connections and suitable devices the switch may be operated either by opening or closing this separate circuit.

If the switch is to be operated by breaking the circuit, fusible connections will be employed, and if by closing the circuit any thermostat suitable for this purpose may be used. Where the generator is located in the same building as the lights the current from the generator may be cut off in the manner described, which would in effect short-circuit the current; or the circuit may simply be opened near the generator.

In buildings already provided with an automatic fire-extinguishing system operated by fusible connections the switch lever may be connected with the lever of the water-regulating valve, so that in the event of a fire the water is automatically turned onto the system of distributing-nozzles, and at the same instant the electric current is automatically cut off from the lighting-circuit extending throughout the building. Instead of using weight for turning the switch, a spring might be used for such purpose.

It is evident that many changes in the construction and arrangement of the various parts of the system might be resorted to without involving a departure from the spirit of my invention; and hence I would have it understood that I do not restrict myself to the arrangement and construction of parts shown and described.

So far as I am aware, this is the first improvement yet devised in a system of electric lighting for automatically cutting out of circuit the electric conductor of a building in case of fire; and hence I make broad claim to such to such a system.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with the main circuit of an electric lighting system, of a switch and suitable devices constructed and arranged to automatically cut out of circuit the electric conductors extending through a building when the temperature therein exceeds a predetermined degree and short-circuit the current through the main conductor, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, with the main conductor of an electric lighting system and a switch constructed and arranged to electrically connect the main conductor with the electric conductor of a building, and, when shifted, to cut out of circuit the conductor of the building and divert the current through the main conductor, of means, substantially as described, located within the building provided with the conductor, and adapted to be actuated by abnormal heat in the building and automatically shift the switch and short-circuit the current, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with the main conductor of an electric lighting system and a switch constructed and arranged to electrically connect the main conductor with the electric conductor of a building, and, when shifted, to cut out of circuit the conductor of the building and divert the current through the main conductor, of fusible links or connections located in different parts of the building, and means, substantially as described, for shifting the switch upon the fusing of any one of said links, thereby cutting the conductor of the building out of circuit and diverting the current through the main conductor, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, with the main conductor of an electric lighting system and a switch constructed and arranged to electrically connect the main conductor with the electric conductor of a building, and, when shifted, to cut out of circuit the conductor of the building and short-circuit the current through the main conductor, of a wire connected with the switch-lever and extending through the building and connected or joined at intervals by fusible joints or links, and a weight or its equivalent for shifting the switch and short-circuiting the current when the safety-wire is parted, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY A. SEYMOUR.

Witnesses:
HERMAN MORAN,
F. O. MCCLEARY.